



# Resources of Interest

If you are interested in learning more about the Social Security Administration's (SSA's) Ticket to Work Program, check out the following resources!

**Recorded Teleconferences:** In July, SSA and CESSI, SSA's Recruitment and Outreach Manager, partnered with the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) to conduct a teleconference on the changes to the Ticket to Work regulations. This teleconference explored the new Partnership Plus option and how it could benefit both Employment Networks (ENs) and VR agencies as they work to meet the employment and training needs of Social Security beneficiaries with disabilities. Visit: [www.cessi.net/pmro\\_pub/CSAVR\\_TeleconfJuly2008.wpl](http://www.cessi.net/pmro_pub/CSAVR_TeleconfJuly2008.wpl)

A teleconference conducted jointly by CESSI and MAXIMUS, SSA's Operations Support Manager, provided information about important changes in the Ticket to Work regulations. Although this teleconference was targeted for current ENs, entities considering becoming an EN will also find the information useful. Visit: [www.cessi.net/pmro\\_pub/Aug72008ConfCall.wpl](http://www.cessi.net/pmro_pub/Aug72008ConfCall.wpl)

**Webinars:** In July, SSA and CESSI partnered with Cornell University to conduct two highly successful webinars which are now accessible in an archived format. You may download the webinar, read the transcripts, or download the presentations for "Ticket 101" and the "EN Payment Process" at [www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/m-cessi.cfm](http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/m-cessi.cfm).

**Podcast:** If you prefer listening to a 25 minute podcast, check out the Ticket to Work episode of "Disability Law Lowdown" at <http://dll.ada-podcast.com>.

## Thinking About Becoming an Employment Network?

**EN Request for Proposal (RFP):** If you are interested in becoming an EN under the New Ticket to Work Program, you will need to complete the EN RFP which can be downloaded at [www.socialsecurity.gov/work/documents/RFP-07-0010F.doc](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/work/documents/RFP-07-0010F.doc).

**CESSI:** If you would like assistance in completing the EN RFP, CESSI has several resources. **Account Managers** are available to provide consultation and individualized technical assistance as you complete the EN RFP. There are specialists for One-Stops, Mental Health, Higher Education, Employers, Partnership Plus and Service Providers. Discover your appropriate contact at: [www.cessi.net/ttw/contactus.html](http://www.cessi.net/ttw/contactus.html).

CESSI also offers bi-weekly **EN Application Walk-Through Teleconferences** every other Wednesday at 2:00pm EST. These free teleconferences will guide you through the entire application, section by section, page by page. Call 1-877-743-8237 (V/TTY) or e-mail [application@cessi.net](mailto:application@cessi.net) to get the call-in information.

**SSA's Employment Network Contract Team (ENCT):** The ENCT is also available to answer questions about the EN RFP, walk you through the EN contract award process, and help you complete your application. Contact SSA ENCT at 1-866-584-5180 (V) or 1-866-584-5181 (TTY), or e-mail [encontracts@ssa.gov](mailto:encontracts@ssa.gov).



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## Assistance Continues After You Become an EN!

**MAXIMUS** offers a wide array of training and support services to help you get started, develop and implement your business model, and operate your Ticket to Work Program. Contact MAXIMUS at 1-866-968-7842 (V) or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY).

- **Ticket Training Tuesdays** are interactive training modules designed to assist ENs and State VR agencies with the fundamentals of working within the Ticket to Work Program. These calls offer a great opportunity to train new and existing staff and to network with fellow ENs to share tips and promising practices. These toll-free conference calls occur every Tuesday at 1:00 pm EST. They last 60 to 90 minutes and are open to anyone. There is no need to pre-register. The call number and participate code are the same for each call. Simply dial 1-800-480-6924. The participant code is "Ticket to Work."

**Beneficiary Outreach:** Working with local Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Programs, CESSI facilitates community Work Incentive Seminars (WISE) and other outreach activities involving national and community partners to help connect beneficiaries with ENs. Contact CESSI at 1-877-743-8237 (V/TTY) for more information or visit [www.cessi.net/WISE/](http://www.cessi.net/WISE/).

## Cool Tools

**Employment Network (EN) Revenue Estimator:** This tool allows you to estimate up to three years of revenue from the Ticket Program. Visit the CESSI web site at [www.cessi.net/en\\_estimator/](http://www.cessi.net/en_estimator/).

**Individualized Work Plan (IWP) Template:** This template includes all of the elements that must be included in an IWP to meet the requirements of the Ticket to Work Program. Visit the MAXIMUS web site at [www.yourtickettowork.com/training\\_2](http://www.yourtickettowork.com/training_2).

**18-Month Prior Earnings Tool:** This tool can be used as you work with a beneficiary to assess his/her prior work history during the 18 months just prior to Ticket assignment. Visit the MAXIMUS web site at [www.yourtickettowork.com/training\\_2](http://www.yourtickettowork.com/training_2).

**Employment Network Handbook for Employers:** This handbook explains how employers can become ENs and the advantages of doing so. It also provides information on other incentives for hiring individuals with disabilities, such as the Work Opportunity Tax Credit. Visit CESSI's web site at [www.cessi.net/ttw/en\\_onestop\\_employer/ENHandbk-employers.pdf](http://www.cessi.net/ttw/en_onestop_employer/ENHandbk-employers.pdf)

## For more information on the Ticket to Work Program

- Visit SSA's Work Site: [www.socialsecurity.gov/work](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/work)
- Visit SSA's Ticket Tracker: [www.socialsecurity.gov/work/tickettracker.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/work/tickettracker.html)
- Visit CESSI's web site: [www.cessi.net/ttw/](http://www.cessi.net/ttw/)
- Visit the MAXIMUS web site: [www.yourtickettowork.com](http://www.yourtickettowork.com)
- Submit questions on the Ticket to Work Program to: [TicketProgram@ssa.gov](mailto:TicketProgram@ssa.gov)